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DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY
24 MASON STREET
PROVIDENCE, R. I.
02903

JOHN S. RENZA
DIRECTOR

EMPLOYMENT BULLETIN

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
EDWARD D. DI PRETE
GOVERNOR

VOLUME 33 November 1987 NO. 11

RHODE ISLAND EMPLOYMENT INCREASES TO 455,400 IN OCTOBER

Overall Rhode Island establishment employment increased to a record high level of 455,400 in October, primarily as a result of education-related gains in the Nonmanufacturing sector and some additional hiring in the Manufacturing sector, reported John S. Renza, Director of the Rhode Island Department of Employment Security.

According to preliminary estimates prepared by the Department of Employment Security, in coopr ration with the U. S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics, Rhode Island employment rose by 3,300 from September to October, reaching the current total of 455,400. This figure also represents a gain of 3,500 from the October 1986 level of 451,900.

MANUFACTURING

Total manufacturing employment increased by 200 in the September-October period to a level of 121,300. However, the current total was down 200 compared to the year earlier figure of 121,500. In the Durable Goods category, the October employment level of 82,900 showed an upturn of 100 jobs from the prior month, but reflected a drop of 700 from the figure recorded in October 1986. The Nondurable Goods total of 38,400 advanced 100 from September and was 500 above the figure reported a year ago.

Within the Durable Goods sector, monthly employment increases were posted in Jewelry-Silverware (+200) and Nonelectrical Machinery (+100). These gains more than offset decreases of 100 each in Primary Metals and Fabricated Metals. The number of jobs in the remaining Durable Goods industries showed no change for the month.

(Continued on Page 4)

1988 TAXABLE WAGE BASE

In accordance with State law, the 1988 taxable wage bases for the Employment Security and Temporary Disability Insurance programs have been determined. John S. Renza, Employment Security Director, recently announced that the wage base on which Employment Security taxes will be paid during the 1988 tax year that begins on January 1 will be $12,000. The wage base for T.D.I. contributions will also be $12,000.

The 1988 taxable wage bases for the E.S. and T.D.I. programs are equal to 70 percent of the 1986 average annual wage earned by workers covered by the Employment Security and Temporary Disability Insurance Acts respectively, rounded upward to the next even multiple of $200. The 1986 average annual wage for workers covered by the E.S. Act was $17,131; the average annual wage for workers covered by T.D.I. was $17,024.

Employers will be notified of their individual unemployment insurance tax rates prior to next April 1.

The employee tax rate for Temporary Disability Insurance will be 1.0 percent of the new T.D.I. wage base in 1988.

RHODE ISLAND JOB SERVICE OFFICES

BRISTOL COUNTY, 470 Metacom Ave . . .245-9300
EAST PROVIDENCE, 877 Broadway 277-3546
NEWPORT COUNTY, 73 Valley Road
Middletown 847-3680
PAWTUCKET, 109 Main St. 722-7500
PROVIDENCE, 130 West Exchange St.
Employer Services 277-3573
Jewelry 277-3553
Manufacturing & Construction 277-3556
Professional & Clerical 277-3584
Temporary Help 277-3559
WAKEFIELD, Oliver Stedman Gov't. Center
Tower Hill Road 789-9721
WARWICK, 50 Airport Road. 737-7550
WESTERLY, 57 Spruce Street. 596-2814
WEST WARWICK, 1330 Main St 828-6134
WOONSOCKET, 217 Pond St 762-9010

OTHER JOB SERVICE TELEPHONE NUMBERS

JOB BANK 277-3588
or . . . . . Enterprise 2265
TJTC Information 277-3726
TJTC Job Orders. 277-3588
CALL-A-TEEN . . . .Call your local Job Service Office
Project STEADY. 277-6813

EMPLOYMENT SERVICE ACTIVITIES

	Oct. 1987	Sept. 1987	Oct. 1986
Total Placements	765	2,173	1,196
New Applications	2,031	3,427	2,781
New Openings Rec'd.	1,774	2,472	2,468

EMPLOYMENT SECURITY ACTIVITIES

	Oct. 1987	Sept. 1987	% Change Sept.1987
Initial Claims	4,005	3,736	+ 7.2
No. of Payments	24,364	32,572	- 25.2
Amt. of Payments	$ 3,504,996	$ 4,375,067	- 19.9
Exhaustions	588	761	- 22.7

TEMPORARY DISABILITY INSURANCE ACTIVITIES

	Oct. 1987	Sept. 1987	Oct. 1986
Initial Claims	3,462	3,450	4,066
No. of Payments	26,107	26,069	27,036
Amt. of Payments	$ 4,178,857	$ 4,173,013	$ 3,926,497

RHODE ISLAND
Labor Force-Unemployment Estimates
(In thousands)

	Oct. 1987	Sept. 1987	Oct. 1986
Civilian Labor Force	524.7	522.6	518.5
Unemployment	15.5	16.0	16.8
Rate (Unadjusted)	3.0	3.1	3.2
Seas. Adjusted Rate	3.5	3.6	3.9

PROVIDENCE
Primary Metropolitan Statistical Area
Labor Force-Unemployment Estimates
(In thousands)

	Sept. 1987	Aug. 1987	Sept. 1986
Civilian Labor Force	338.4	336.4	330.8
Unemployment	10.2	11.7	11.2
Rate (Unadjusted)	3.0	3.5	3.4

PAWTUCKET-WOONSOCKET-ATTLEBORO
Primary Metropolitan Statistical Area
Labor Force-Unemployment Estimates
(In thousands)

	Sept. 1987	Aug. 1987	Sept. 1986
Civilian Labor Force	167.4	168.6	167.4
Unemployment	6.0	6.7	8.5
Rate (Unadjusted)	3.6	4.0	5.1

NEWPORT Labor Area
Labor Force-Unemployment Estimates

	Sept. 1987	Aug. 1987	Sept. 1986
Civilian Labor Force	36,485	36,520	35,480
Unemployment	815	950	895
Rate (Unadjusted)	2.2	2.6	2.5

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE INSURED UNEMPLOYED
AUGUST 17-21, 1987

Sex and Age	Number	Percent
Total	10,246	100.0
Men	4,360	42.6
Under 45	2,974	68.2
45 and over	1,386	31.8
Women	5,886	57.4
Under 45	3,405	57.8
45 and Over	2,481	42.2
Industry Attachment		
Contract Construction	355	3.5
Manufactruing	4,422	43.1
Public Utilities	878	8.6
Wholesale and Retail	1,756	17.1
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	354	3.5
Service	1,880	18.3
All Other	601	5.9
Occupational Skills		
Prof., Tech. and Managerial	1,818	17.7
Clerical and Sale	2,588	25.3
Service	1,171	11.4
Fishery, Forestry & Rel. Occ.	31	0.3
Processing	200	2.0
Machine Trades	1,125	11.0
Bench Work	1,140	11.1
Structural Work	662	6.5
Miscellaneous	1,510	14.7
INA	1	0.0

TOTAL ESTABLISHMENT EMPLOYMENT IN RHODE ISLAND

	EMPLOYMENT IN THOUSANDS			NET CHANGE FROM	
	Oct. 1987	Sept. 1987	Oct. 1986	Sept. 1987	Oct. 1986
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT *	455.4	452.1	451.9	+ 3,300	+ 3,500
MANUFACTURING	121.3	121.1	121.5	+ 200	- 200
NONMANUFACTURING	334.1	331.0	330.4	+ 3,100	+ 3,700
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	19.5	19.4	18.2	+ 100	+ 1,300
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	15.3	15.3	14.9	-	+ 400
TRADE (Wholesale & Retail)	102.0	102.3	100.7	- 300	+ 1,300
FINANCE, INSURANCE & REAL ESTATE	25.4	25.5	25.0	- 100	+ 400
SERVICE (Miscellaneous)	113.9	111.7	113.0	+ 2,200	+ 900
GOVERNMENT (Federal, State & Local)	58.0	56.8	58.6	+ 1,200	- 600

1987 Figures are PRELIMINARY. 1986 Figures are REVISED. Estimates are for Pay Period which includes the 12th of the month.

Compiled by THE DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY in cooperation with the U.S. BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

* Farmers, Self-employed, Domestic and Armed Services personnel are excluded.
** Labor Dispute

ESTABLISHMENT EMPLOYMENT, EARNINGS AND HOURS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES IN R.I.

	EMPLOYMENT					PRODUCTION-WORKER AVERAGES					
	In Thousands			Net Change From		Weekly Earnings		Weekly Hours		Hourly Earnings	
INDUSTRY GROUP	Oct. 1987	Sept. 1987	Oct. 1986	Sept. 1987	Oct. 1986	Oct. 1987	Oct. 1986	Oct. 1987	Oct. 1986	Oct. 1987	Oct. 1986
ALL MANUFACTURING	121.3	121.1	121.5	+200	- 200	332.80	323.60	40.0	40.5	8.32	7.99
DURABLE GOODS	82.9	82.8	83.6	+100	- 700	331.23	322.34	40.1	40.7	8.26	7.92
LUMBER/FURNITURE	3.4	3.4	3.4	-	-	389.09	378.92	40.7	40.7	9.56	9.31
STONE-CLAY-GLASS	1.7	1.7	1.8	-	- 100	421.60	415.00	40.0	41.5	10.54	10.00
PRIMARY METALS	5.4	5.5	5.4	- 100	-	402.70	385.64	42.3	42.1	9.52	9.16
FABRICATED METALS	9.8	9.9	10.0	- 100	- 200	323.61	296.34	40.1	40.1	8.07	7.39
NONELECTRIC MACH.	6.1*	6.0*	6.0*	+100	+100	454.38	433.62	44.2	43.8	10.28	9.90
ELECTRICAL MACHINERY	12.0	12.0	12.1	-	- 100	296.07	299.20	38.5	40.0	7.69	7.48
TRANSPORTATION EQUIP.	9.3	9.3	9.5	-	- 200	448.26	423.05	41.2	40.6	10.88	10.42
INSTRUMENTS	5.0*	5.0*	4.9*	-	+100	330.86	332.84	40.3	42.4	8.21	7.85
JEWELRY-SILVERWARE	24.4	24.2	24.5	+200	- 100	265.47	258.67	39.8	40.8	6.67	6.34
MISCELLANEOUS MFG.	5.8	5.8	6.0	-	- 200	259.18	252.70	36.3	36.1	7.14	7.00
NONDURABLE GOODS	38.4	38.3	37.9	+100	+500	337.51	325.61	39.9	40.1	8.46	8.12
FOOD-BEVERAGE	3.5	3.4	3.4	+100	+100	298.24	268.19	37.8	37.3	7.89	7.19
TEXTILES	10.5	10.5	10.3	-	+200	310.13	296.70	40.7	40.7	7.62	7.29
APPAREL	3.1	3.2	3.1	- 100	-	285.36	280.06	41.0	41.8	6.96	6.70
PAPER PRODUCTS	2.5	2.5	2.6	-	- 100	328.87	302.43	42.6	41.6	7.72	7.27
PRINTING-PUBLISHING	7.0	6.9	6.8	+100	+200	435.85	425.31	37.9	38.7	11.50	10.99
CHEMICAL PRODUCTS	3.0	3.0	3.1	-	- 100	438.19	432.23	40.8	40.7	10.74	10.62
RUBBER PRODUCTS	1.4	1.4	1.3	-	+100	347.78	329.60	41.6	41.2	8.36	8.00
PLASTICS PRODUCTS	5.1	5.1	5.0	-	+100	332.48	322.32	39.3	40.8	8.46	7.90
LEATHER PRODUCTS	2.3	2.3	2.3	-	-	233.05	215.39	39.3	38.6	5.93	5.58

1986 Figures REVISED. 1987 Figures are PRELIMINARY. Estimates are for pay period which includes the 12th of the month.

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* Labor Dispute

RHODE ISLAND
EMPLOYMENT
BULLETIN

DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY
24 Mason Street
Providence, R.I. 02903 - 1082

OFFICIAL BUSINESS
Penalty for Private Use, $300

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THIRD CLASS – BULK RATE

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ATT SRI
4520 EAST WEST HIGHWAY
BETHESDA MD 20814

WHENEVER YOU NEED WORKERS CONTACT RHODE ISLAND JOB SERVICE

(Continued from Page 1)

Compared to a year ago, payroll levels increased in Non-electrical Machinery and Instruments (+100 each). In contrast, job declines of 200 each occurred in Fabricated Metals, Transportation Equipment and the Miscellaneous Manufacturing segment. Also down for the twelve month period were Stone-Clay-Glass, Electrical Machinery and Jewelry-Silverware (-100 each). Employment totals in Lumber/Furniture and Primary Metals were unchanged from a year ago. Among the Nondurable Goods producing industries, monthly advances of 100 each were reported in Food-Beverage and Printing-Publishing, while Apparel jobs fell 100 from the prior month. Employment levels in the remaining Nondurable Goods industries showed no change in the September-October period. On an annual comparison, job gains were registered in Textiles and Printing-Publishing (+200 each) followed by upturns of 100 each in Food-Beverage, Rubber Products and Plastics Products. Contrary to this, employment decreases of 100 each were evident in Paper Products and Chemical Products. Payroll levels in Apparel and Leather Products showed no change compared to October 1986.

NONMANUFACTURING

Total employment in Rhode Island Nonmanufacturing establishments rose by 3,100 from September to October, largely the result of education-related gains in the Services and Government sectors. The October employment total of 334,100 is also 3,700 jobs greater than the year earlier level of 330,400.

Within the Nonmanufacturing sector, Services employment rose 2,200 for the month to 113,900 and was up 900 compared to a year ago. Overall Government employment, at 58,000 posted a monthly increase of 1,200; however, the current figure represents a decrease of 600 from the same month a year ago. As a result of a monthly job gain of 100, Contract Construction employment rose to 19,500, which was 1,300 above the total recorded a year earlier. Payroll levels in Trade, at 102,000, showed a monthly decrease of 300, while employment in Finance, Insurance and Real Estate, at 25,400, recorded a drop of 100 for the same time period. Nevertheless, the former was up 1,300, while the latter advanced 400 compared to October 1986. Although Transportation and Public Utilities jobs registered no change from September to October, the current total of 15,300 reflects an increase of 400 from the year ago employment figure.

HOURS AND EARNINGS

Average hourly earnings for Rhode Island's production workers increased by 2 cents to $8.32 in mid-October. This represents a 33 cent per hour gain compared to a year ago. The average work week showed no change from September to October as it remained at 40.0 hours. However, this is 0.5 of an hour less than the October 1986 work week. Average weekly earnings for these workers amounted to $332.80 in October, representing an increase of 80 cents from last month and a gain of $9.20 from a year ago.

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